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FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIETY  
*John Simpson*

Thirty four years ago when the Leytonstone, Wanstead & District Philatelic Society organized the A.E.P.S. annual Convention at Wanstead House in 1952 I was the Chairman of the Society. It was a glorious sunny day and everything went according to plan. Although I can do nothing about the weather on this 1986 occasion, I am sure that all the efforts of the members will be well rewarded. The thanks of all who attend this Stamp Day are due to those individual people who have made all the arrangements. The Association has been well served by its constituent Societies over many years and in almost all cases the Stamp Days and Autumn Rallies have been very pleasant and memorable occasions.

In its 50 years, the Society has had only five Presidents, there being a tradition that all Presidents die in office! In view of this, I am proposing a change in the Rules at the next A.G.M!

We have been asked by the A.E.P.S. to stage two or three 16-page thematic exhibits and you will be able to judge how they fit in between the usual 8-page Club competition and a 32-page National entry. We would very much welcome your comments. The many dealers in the Hall are ready to meet your wants as far as they can; please make them happy!

Above all, enjoy yourselves.

FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE A.E.P.S.

**Len Belle**

On behalf of the A.E.P.S. may I welcome you to Essex Stamp Day, 1986. I hope you will have an enjoyable day in the friendly company of fellow philatelists. To make this possible, much hard work has been done by our hosts, the Leytonstone & Wanstead Philatelic Society. To them I would like to express our thanks for the efforts which, I am sure, will result in a first-class show in keeping with the high standards we have become accustomed to in the County.

Elsewhere in this publication you will find details of the beginnings of the A.E.P.S. Whether you know all about the Association or not, you will find this interesting reading. I need say no more on this subject except to emphasize one point - the main aim of the Association is to encourage friendliness and co-operation between Societies and individual collectors.

Of course, you may not have joined a local Society yet: if this is the case, may I recommend that you do so. It may be that you are a beginner and feel diffident about mixing with the so-called "experts". Have no fears on this score; my experience is that philatelists are always willing to give advice and encouragement and to share their knowledge.

Details of all Societies in Essex can be found at the A.E.P.S. table - pay it a visit before you go.

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## *OUR SOCIETY: THE EARLY DAYS!*

*John Allen*

This Society of ours, nowadays called the "Leytonstone, Wanstead & District Philatelic Society, was really founded on three stamps depicting Pope Pius and King Alfonso of Spain, illustrated on the issue of 1928. Mr. Chiswell (a chemist who traded as Price & Co. at the bottom end of High Road, Leytonstone) placed a picture frame with these three stamps in the doorway of his shop asking: "Are you a Stamp Collector, and if so, why not join your Philatelic Society?"

On enquiring, I learned that he was trying to form a Society and he persuaded me to join. The first meeting was called at his premises on October 26th, 1936. The early attendance was 5 or 6 people and Mr. Chiswell was appointed Hon. Secretary and I became the Hon. Treasurer and Publicity Officer. I recall that Mr. Chiswell had an extensive collection of the USA and then went on to form a good one of Guatemala. I think I am correct in saying that towards the end of that year the late Mr. H. Fordham (who bequeathed us the 'Fordham Trophy') became a member and was with us for about 30 years.

Alas! Mr. Chiswell started a family and we had to move. Fortunately, Mr. Clompus was next door and he offered us accommodation, but then he, too, started a family! I was asked to look for a new meeting place and found 'Shrublands', the Liberal Club further up the High Road and there we stayed for a short time and by then we were getting around 15 members at a meeting. I still recall the first major displays we had by outside speakers. In April, 1937, Mr. Cade of Hammersmith showed us 'Germany' and in the following October we welcomed Mr. L.C.Nicholson who gave a talk on 'Jamaica', which made a great impression on members generally. Soon we had to move again as the property we were using was to be sold, but I was most fortunate in finding an excellent meeting place at 'Burt's' at the corner of Wanstead High Street and Cambridge Park, opposite the well-known 'George'. We met on the first floor over the shop and from then on our membership greatly increased. At times we had a problem getting members to go home and often it was nearly eleven before they departed and one member, Mr. R.Cohen, lived in Hammersmith! In those days, however, we had a late bus service.

One stalwart who joined the Society in the early days was Mr. R.C. S.Jagger of Ilford and it was he who kept the Society going throughout the War years. Meetings were held on Saturday afternoons and I can recall that on one occasion only four members were present.

When I returned from the Services, Mr. Jagger approached me and said: "There are two jobs going and you can take your pick!" One was as Hon. Secretary of Leytonstone and the other was the same position with Ilford P.S.: I chose Leytonstone, although at that time - February 1946 - I was very reluctant to become involved, having almost

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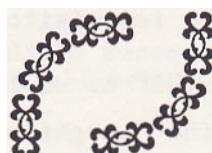
no money and having to start earning a living again. However, Mr. Jagger was very persuasive and I only gave up the post when I moved to Ongar in 1961.

The formation of the A.E.P.S. began in 1944 and in 1946 Mr. Jagger informed me that we were to organize the Convention! I remember a day spent with him in London calling on Stamp Collecting, Harmer's and others to enlist support. The Convention was held at the library in Leytonstone on June 15th 1946, and was opened by Mr. J.B. Seymour, as Sir John Wilson (Keeper of the King's Collection) was unable to attend because of illness. Soon after this we again had to find a new meeting place; I do recall odd meetings held at the British Legion Club in Wanstead High Street and at Wanstead High School, and somewhere in Snaresbrook. However, our luck soon changed with the opening of the Community Centre at Wanstead House and I immediately booked the Roding Room for future meetings (and we still meet there).

By the 1950s the Society had become very strong and eventually we passed the 100 membership mark. I also remember that we won the Stokes Cup three times in the first four years of the competition (1951, '52 and '54) with Southend P.S. as our great rivals. Perhaps mention should be made of the 1952 Convention which we held at Wanstead House, as I still think it was one of the best and most successful. In those days we had no proper display frames, but we managed to put up about 500 sheets all the same, and introduced the very first printed handbook and special cancellation for the occasion. Who can recall the strawberry and cream teas on the lawn?

The celebrations began with a pre-convention assembly at the George which was followed by an official luncheon there, attended by some 80 delegates and guests. The proceedings were opened by Miss Rose Tifford and several films were shown including 'Night Mail', 'Go Ahead, Please' and 'Night Hop'. Trevor Edwards of Harmer's gave a talk on 'Leaves from an Auctioneer's Notebook'. Souvenir envelopes and post-cards bearing the Association's logo (designed for this occasion) were on sale, and mail was carried on the East Anglian T.P.O. Over 500 visitors came to the event and feasted upon a marvelous philatelic display. Our Chairman at this time was John Simpson.

Much more could be written as a potted history of the Society, but as this article is entitled 'The Early Days', this must suffice.



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## THE A.E.P.S. - HOW IT ALL BEGAN

*John Simpson*

In this Handbook is an account of the history of the A.E.P.S. by Reg Lee, the Association's Archivist. However, it may be of interest to look at the very first stages in more detail and for this we have to turn back to the Minute Books of the Leytonstone Society and to the meeting held on March 11th, 1944.

Here we read: "The chairman stated that he had received a letter from Mr. J.B.Seymour, R.D.P., suggesting that a joint meeting be held of all the Essex Philatelic Societies and called by the Leytonstone Society, and stating that he would try to get Mr. F.Godden to give a display if such a meeting could be arranged .....Various suggestions were made and a committee was formed and authorized to arrange a meeting, the cost of which would be met out of the Society funds ....It was agreed to see if the Abercorn Room in Liverpool St. would be available on reasonable terms; if not, the committee was given power to act in finding and booking an alternative room, the maximum amount to be spent on a hall to be £5."

At the next meeting on April 8th, Mr. C.S.Jagger, the Chairman, stated that a room at Leytonstone Library had been booked for June 3rd for £2.4.0., including £1 returnable deposit. The minutes continue: "Mr. Jagger said that a letter drafted by Mr. Seymour would be sent to all the Essex Societies and that the room would be available from 11 a.m. Mr. Seymour mentioned that Mr. Godden had accepted the invitation and would show - under the title "Borrowed Plumes" - some sheets from the Exhibition collections by courtesy of the owners and that he would undertake to mount members' and visitors' sheets on the surround in the hall, transparent envelopes being provided by the Royal Philatelic Society at Mr. Seymour's request."

On May 13th we read: "The secretary stated that he had written to Forest, Chelmsford, Colchester, Ilford and Southend, and displays had been offered by Forest, Ilford and Southend. It was agreed that members of the public would NOT be admitted, but members could bring two or three visitors (but no one under 15)." 74 sheets were allotted to the three visiting societies with 108 to be filled by Leytonstone members. Four members said they would lend drawing pins (!) and 14 agreed to act as stewards. A table was to be reserved at a nearby cafe for tea. A record of attendances would be kept at the door, one for members and one for visitors and friends. Notices would be printed bearing the names of the societies exhibiting and sheets were to be 10.25" x 9.75" so as to fit the covers.

We now turn to a report in the 'Loughton Gazette' of June 10th, 1944. Under the heading 'COUNTY PHILATELIC CONGRESS'/'Displays from all over Essex at Leytonstone', we read: a very full account of what happened on the day:

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"A very large gathering attended a Congress of Essex Philatelists' Societies at Leytonstone Public Library on Saturday last. The object of the meeting, which was the first all-county philatelic congress ever held in Essex, and one of the very few in England during the War, was to bring together philatelists of every school, for promoting a better understanding between societies and for renewing and fostering friendships between stamp collectors. Mr. F. Godden, who is well-known internationally for arranging the British displays at exhibitions abroad, was the chief guest and he gave a fine display of 100 Exhibition sheets under the title "Borrowed Plumes" by kind permission of the owners. About 220 sheets were submitted for display by members of the Leytonstone Philatelic Society (who had arranged the congress), Forest (Buckhurst Hill), Colchester, Ilford and Southend societies. Mr. J. B. Seymour, F.R.P.S.L., Honorary President of the Leytonstone Society, presided.

The main display included the largest block of one-penny blacks known of Great Britain (which belonged to Mr. Seymour), a selection of Brazilian "bullseyes" and some of the American "Missionaries" well-known to collectors; also Sydney "views", down to the modern age with such varieties as the King G.V. Jubilee 2 1/2d error of colour (only two being known), the very latest King G.V. sevenpenny block of six showing the margin at the top and down each side of the top two rows of stamps imperforate.

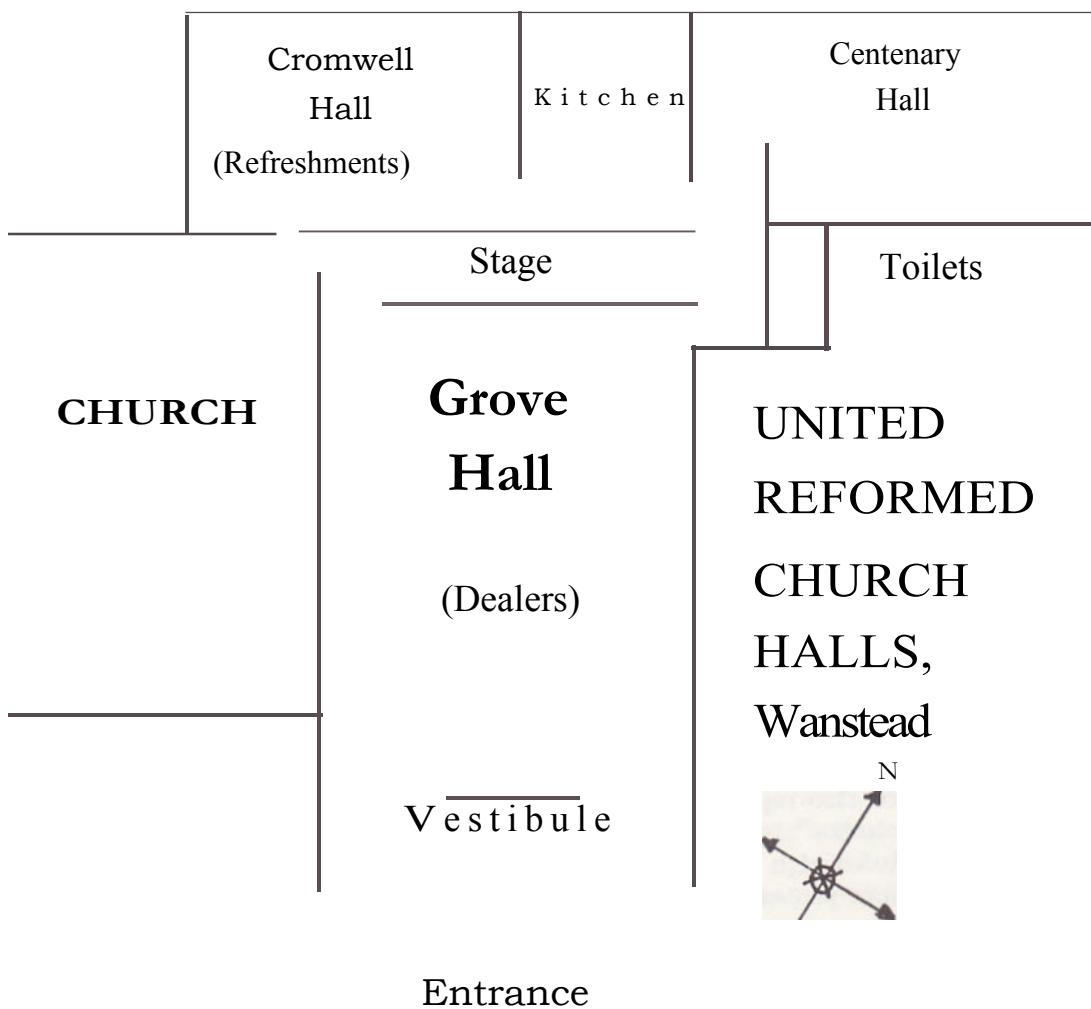
Mr. Gordon Kaye opened a discussion on the objects of the meeting and suggested an annual congress held in neighbouring societies' home towns. Mr. White (Smithend) and Mr. Chidgey (Forest) welcomed the idea on behalf of their societies' members, and it was decided that a committee be formed of one member of each of the societies in Essex with a view to arranging similar congresses in the future.

The displays of stamps by members and visitors were of all known stamp-producing countries and included postal stationery, die proofs, commemorative sets, a complete sheet of Great Britain penny reds, complete sets of current King G.VI colonials and triangular Cape of Good Hope stamps were well represented, with many of the rare ones. Our allies were also represented with displays from the U.S.A. (amongst which was a well-known "Columbus" issue), Russia, Belgium commemoratives and Free France. The congress concluded with hopes of friendship between nations and a congress in the future under more peaceable conditions."

An extract from the minutes of the next Leytonstone meeting on July 8th goes: "Letters from Southend and Forest Philatelic Societies were read by the secretary in relation to the coming committee meeting with reference to the Essex Philatelic Congress next year. The reply to these letters had to be held over until the Secretary had received replies from Colchester and Chelmsford." At the following meeting "It was decided not to write to Chelmsford and Colchester again until the present war situation had sorted itself out."

And that is really how it all began!

Nightingale Lane,



Grosvenor Road

D E A L E R S

D.J.CHURCH  
102 New Century Road, Laindon,  
Basildon, Essex, SS15 6AQ  
Stamps - Covers - Accessories

G.J.FARNFIELD  
15 Sky Peals Road,  
Woodford Green, Essex, IG8 9NE  
Australia, N.Z., Br. Antarctica

RON FOSTER  
9 Alicia Way, Wickford, Essex  
(037 44 5120)

G.B. & Commonwealth

K.J. & L.D.GLACKEN  
17 Spurling Road, Dagenham,  
Essex, RM9 5RH  
(PTS Member)

General

B.HAMMOND  
Doylands, Helmons Lane,  
West Hanningfield,  
Essex, CM2 8UW  
All World

MICHAEL A. HARRIS  
London International Stamp Centre  
27 King St., London, WC2E 8JD  
Postal History & World Covers

Mr. & Mrs. I.HYAMS  
30, Shakespeare Road, Walthamstow  
London, E17 6AS  
General

B.KEELING  
92 Antler's Hill, Chingford,  
London, E4 7RY  
General G.B. & Commonwealth

LARKSWOOD STAMPS  
Shop 3, Georgian Village,  
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London, N14 6LR  
General

LEN MASON  
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Commonwealth & Foreign

Mrs. L.A.MURDOCK  
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Covers

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Billericay, Essex, CM12 9HA  
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59a Bulwer Road, London, E11 1OE  
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RAY WATTS  
157 Chelmsford Road,  
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AND THE POST OFFICE by courtesy  
of Romford Philatelic Counter

LEYTONSTONE, WANSTEAD & DISTRICT PHILATELIC SOCIETY: Officers 1985-86

President and Bye-Post Editor: O.J. Simpson  
Vice-Presidents: Mrs. G.L. Kaye, F.R.P.S.L., W.J. Allen,  
R.D. Lee, A.J.R. Aked  
Chairman: D.A. Pashby  
Vice-Chairman: Miss M.W. Musselwhite  
Secretary: R.G. Bates, 39 Tennyson Avenue, Wanstead, E11 2QN  
Assistant Secretary: P.H. Attrill  
Treasurer and Librarian: Mrs. N.A. Pashby  
Publicity Officer: Mrs. B. Toull  
Packet Superintendent: W.H. Crow  
A.E.P.S. Delegates: R.G. Bates, D.A. Pashby, O.J. Simpson

ASSOCIATION OF ESSEX PHILATELIC SOCIETIES: Officers 1985-1986

President: L.H. Belle	Vice-President: R. How
Chairman: H.B. Smith	Vice-Chairman: G.V.R. Osborn
Secretary: D.A. Pashby	Asst. Secretary: L. Stanway
Treasurer: J. Limmer	Archivist: R.D. Lee
Registrar: O.J. Simpson	Security Officer: J.A. Church
Frame Secretary: J. Newman	

The STOKES CUP trophy is one for competition between Societies affiliated to the A.E.P.S. Each entering Society had to submit three entries (from different members) concerned with either Stamps or Postal History: not more than two entries may be in the same class. The positions (not marks) of the individual exhibits in the two classes are added together and the Society with the lowest total is the winner. There is also an award for the highest placed entry in each class, for the highest placed entry in Aerophilately (entered in the Postal History class), and for the best entry concerned with the Postal History of Great Britain (including the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands). The entry of 'foreign material' placed highest in either class wins the George Pearson Shield. The reason for choosing the position and not the mark as the criterion is to eliminate the effect of one judge marking 'high' and the other 'low'.

At the A.E.P.S. Autumn Rally we hold a Thematic Competition for another trophy and also award the Chris Rauch trophy for Novices. In addition we have a Literature trophy for articles or books (in alternate years) written by Essex members. All these competitions are judged prior to the summer or autumn show by two qualified judges at a location where they can do it in peace and be undisturbed.

We also have a Quiz trophy for competition between Societies at the Autumn Rally (teams of three).

The 1986 Autumn Rally of the A.E.P.S. will be held at Harlow on October 11th.

#### CLUB TROPHIES

The Society has five trophies which are awarded in competitions between members. They are:

**Malford Cup** This is for Postal History and was the first trophy the Society had. It was given to the Society in 1948 by a then member (and later Vice-president), Mr. J.A.Smith, who lived in Malford Grove, South Woodford.

**Dr. Anthony Shield** This is for Stamps, and in the early years a specific continent or area was set, but now it is left open. Dr. W. Anthony was the President of the Society for a number of years in the nineteen-fifties.

**Fordham Trophy** This is for Thematics and was bequeathed to us by Mr. H. Fordham who joined the Club in pre-war days, and who, for many years, was Packet Superintendent.

**Solomon Trophy** This was given to us in the sixties by the sister of Mr. J. Solomon, one of our former members. It is a Novice's trophy and is awarded to the member who, never having won one of the major trophies, achieves the highest place in those competitions. In the event of a tie, the marks are taken into considerations.

**Quiz Trophy** This was donated by Mr. E. Foster when President and is competed for every other year. The penalty of winning it is to have to set the questions for the next competition!

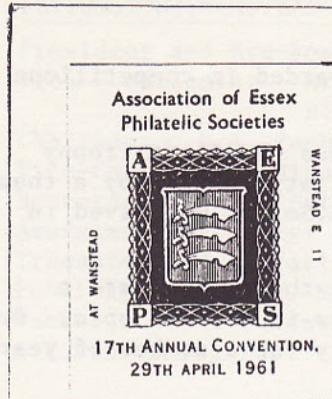
Information about Societies in the County, along with various articles for sale, can be obtained from the A.E.P.S. stand, and details about the local Society are available at the Leytonstone stall: both stalls will be found in the vestibule.

It is hoped to have an Official History of the A.E.P.S. for sale at the Autumn Rally, but this depends so much on the time required for printing it. It has been written by the Association archivist, Reg Lee (a Leytonstone member).

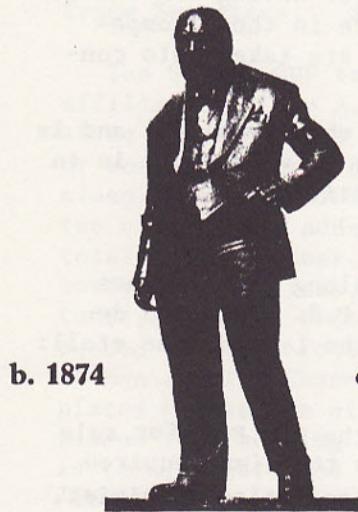
The Post Office, situated in the Centenary Hall, has a good supply of stamps etc. to meet all your requirements (at cost price, too!)

Refreshments are available all day in the Cromwell Hall at reasonable prices. No need to go hungry. We are very grateful to those members (and relatives of members) who have been involved with the arranging and servicing of this facility.

The Leytonstone & Wanstead Stamp Fair next year will be held in Christchurch Hall, Wanstead, on April 11th, 1987.



## SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL Centenary



Memorial on Woodford Green, Essex, in Sir Winston's constituencies of Epping, (1924-1945), and Woodford, (1945-1965).

Postcard



O. J. Simpson, Esq.,  
B.Sc., F.R.I.C.  
63 Ravensbourne Gardens  
Clayhall  
Ilford, Essex

Two Souvenirs from earlier Conventions: an illustrated postcard can be bought at the Society stall in the vestibule this year.

Our thanks are due to John Simpson for the design and typing of this booklet and to Frank Spring for its printing and publication

## STOKES CUP

The Stokes Cup was presented to the Association in 1951 by the then President, Mr. E.W. Stokes, for annual competition among affiliated societies. The winners since its inception have been:-

1951	Leytonstone & Wanstead	1952	Leytonstone & Wanstead
1953	Southend	1954	Leytonstone & Wanstead
1955	Southend	1956	Chelmsford
1957	Goodmayes	1958	Leytonstone & Wanstead
1959	Southend	1960	Southend
1961	Southend	1962	Southend
1963	Goodmayes	1964	Goodmayes
1965	Leytonstone & Wanstead	1966	Brentwood
1967	Brentwood	1968	Southend
1969	Forest	1970	East Anglia P.H.S.C.
1971	Leytonstone & Wanstead	1972	Rayleigh
1973	East Anglia P.H.S.C.	1974	Southend
1975	Forest	1976	Brentwood
1977	Chelmsford	1978	Forest
1979	Clacton	1980	Forest
1981	Chelmsford	1982	Chelmsford
1983	East Anglia P.H.S.C.	1984	Leytonstone & Wanstead
1985	Basildon	1986	

The 1986 Entries are on show in the Centenary Hall

### WHY SHOULD I JOIN THE CLUB?

If you live locally - or within travelling distance of Wanstead, why not join your local Society? At Wanstead we can offer you:-

Good company

A comprehensive library

An excellent Exchange Packet System

A very varied programme throughout the year with displays and talks by members and visitors, dealers' evenings, etc.

We meet at Wanstead House on the second Saturday (2.45 p.m.) and the fourth Monday (7.45 p.m.) of each month from September to May with informal meetings in June and July.